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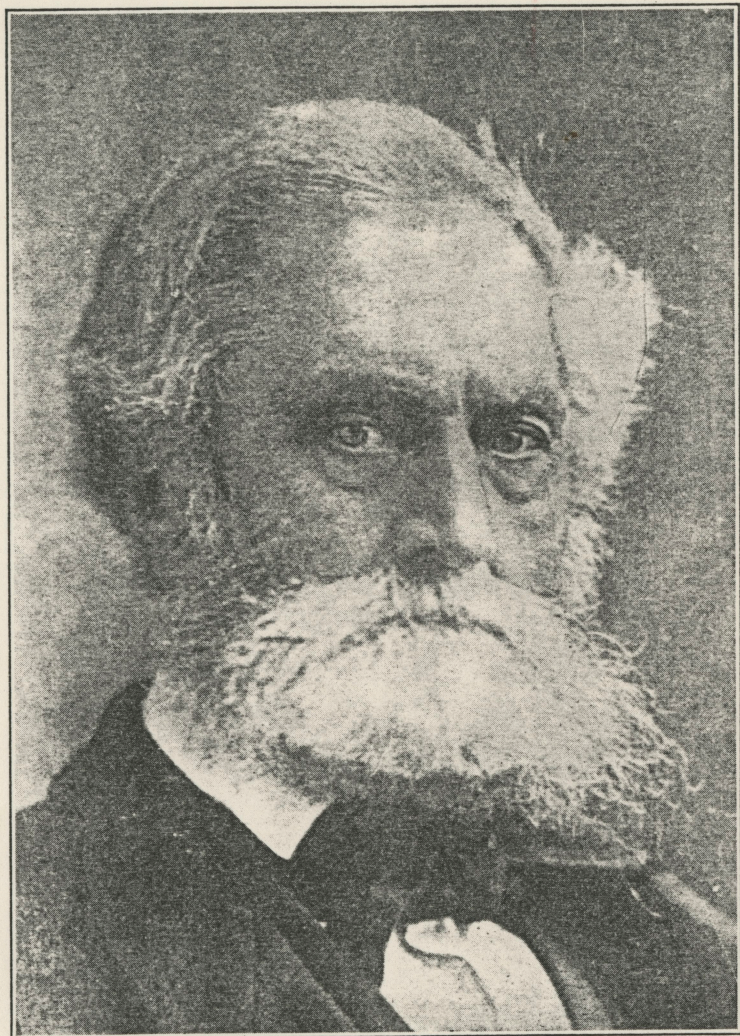
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cultural College of South Carolina, and with the coöperation of Mr. G. F. Mitchell, an alumnus of the college and now of the Department of Agri-



HON. THOMAS GREEN CLEMSON, LL.D.
1807-1888

culture, Bureau of Chemistry, Washington, D. C., and through the courtesy of Mr. Robert P. Skinner, Consul General of the United States at Paris, the Director of the Ecole des Mines in Paris wrote Mr. Skinner a letter, giving the connection of Thomas G. Clemson with that school, where some

thought Mr. Clemson had been pupil and afterwards a teacher. The letter reads as follows:

Ministere des Travaux Publique
Paris, July 1st, 1926
Boulevard St. Michel 60

Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines
To Mr. Robert P. Skinner,
Consul General of the United States of America
1, rue des Italiens, Paris

Mr. Consul General:

I had not lost track of your letter of June 10 regarding the passage of Thomas G. Clemson at the Paris School of Mines, but up to the present time, I had made a fruitless search through our archives which consist of the minutes of the council of the school on hand since 1816. I have been unable to find any record of a student by the name of Clemson either in the minutes or the directory of former students of the school. However, I entertained some doubts on the matter as a note under date of Nov. 4, 1828, indicated that a young American by the name of Clauson was authorized to attend classes at the school of mines through a decision rendered by the ministry of the public works at the request of the consul of the United States of America. A further search of our archives revealed the fact that the Clauson of 1828 was none other than Thomas Clemson. The archives of the secretary's office contain a file of slips on each regular student and each "auditeur libre" (irregular student) who has passed through the school (white slips for regular students, and blue for "auditeurs libres") and a blue slip has just been discovered in the name of Clemson (Thomas), 1828-1832, which means that Thomas Clemson attended the classes at our school as "auditeur libre," from 1828 to 1832; therefore, the Clauson of November 4, 1828, can be no other person but Thomas Clemson.

The minutes of the council give no information in regard to "auditeurs libres," who, until recent years, were subject to no examination and were granted no diploma nor degree. I have, therefore, been unable to ascertain, other information beyond the fact of his admission to the school in regard to "Auditeur" Clauson, as identified with Thomas Clemson. At any rate, it is quite certain that he never was a teacher in our institution.

Please accept, Mr. Consul General, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

The Director of the School of Mines
(Signed) Chesneau

In 1830 Clemson took part in the movement to overthrow King Charles X, and place in his room Louis Phillipe as constitutional monarch. Louis Phillipe had spent some time in Philadelphia, and had possibly visited in Clemson's home.

During the year 1832 Clemson visited the United States, but returned to Paris the same year and remained there probably through 1836. In 1837 we find him back in the United States, practicing as consulting engineer and chemist at Philadelphia and Washington. In the latter city he met Maria Calhoun, John C. Calhoun's favorite daughter, whom